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# TORONTO LIFE

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# City of Ideas

25 world-changing ideas from the smartest Torontonians



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# Restaurants

## ITALIAN

### FLORENTIA ★ ½

A giant pointillist painting celebrating famous Florentines—Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Roberto Benigni—dominates this Tuscan trattoria. Focusing on Italy's dynamic duo of carbs, the menu is painfully conventional, but that's not a terrible thing when the standbys are done right, as they are here. Brushed with olive oil, pizzas are thin, crisp, blistered and chewy. The casaro brings a heart-stoppingly rich white pie laden with fior di latte, gorgonzola, mascarpone and parmigiano; shaved red onion adds welcome bite to this four-cheese extravaganza. Penne strasciate is a daily special that should be promoted to the main menu post-haste. The al dente tubes are coated with a pitch-perfect ragù of beef, prosciutto and a slow-cooked vegetable soffritto. In a tall cooler, standard red wines are kept at proper cellar temperature. Friendly service. Closed Monday. Mains \$16–\$22. 579 Mount Pleasant Rd. (at Manor Rd. E.), 416-545-1220. 🍴 🍷

## HOW WE DO IT

Reviews are conducted anonymously whenever possible; restaurant bills are paid by *Toronto Life*. Reviews have absolutely no connection to advertising. Stars are awarded for food and wine quality and presentation, service, atmosphere, ambition and originality. For more reviews, see [torontolife.com](http://torontolife.com).

### WHAT THE STARS MEAN

- ★ good
- ★★ very good
- ★★★ excellent
- ★★★★ extraordinary
- ★★★★★ perfect

Unless otherwise stated, a restaurant is licensed.

🍷 recommendations allow one person to dine well for \$30 or less, includ-

ing tax and tip; they are not star rated.

### KEY TO SYMBOLS

- ♿ restaurant and washrooms are wheelchair accessible
- ☂ outdoor dining in season
- 🍴 kitchen has several interesting vegetarian options
- 🍷 bring your own bottle
- 🦉 kitchen open past midnight on weekends